



## **Politics of Translation Representations and Power**

Seventh Annual International Translation Conference  
Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII)  
Hamad bin Khalifa University,  
Doha, Qatar  
March 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### **Call for papers**

History has shown that translation can be the center of power relations, whether it is on the side of the powerful or the downtrodden. For the former, translation can be the traitor allied to colonization; for the latter it could be the contesteer resisting it. Not far away from this apparently Manichean order of things, the context of globalization is now bringing to the fore more complexity and a less clear picture of the different influences translation is submitted to or is imposing on cultures, economies and politics. Being at the interface of world meaning exchanges and the power relations they entail, translation is increasingly recognized to be part of the global game of discursive influence and authority. Whether by means of language, sound, image or else, to translate is to re-present meaningful or interpretable objects. The power to re-shape, re-cast, re-arrange and re-model significations is a political instrument that many have come to realize its critical value. To the extent that the political would use the wide span of translational mechanisms to represent power and create new ways to transform itself and develop its avatars to the eyes of the governed.

However, the politics of translation is not confined to the spheres of traditional powers. In the era of sustainable development, engaged popular resistance, sustained conflicts and maintained tensions in many regions of the world, the politics of translation is now occupying the international scene by projecting a sort of *mise en abyme* of representations and self-proclaimed representatives where none can track back the origins or sometimes even detect the aims. If after Deleuze and Baudrillard, the digital world of representations has open to the reign of simulacra, then who will be the agents of that polity?



Groups of organized people have taken over the forestage and are definitively blurring the borders of the political powers, the maps of nations and their symbols. To represent these new powers and sources of influence, the power of representation has never been more significant. And translation—in its widest sense—is definitively at the heart of the process.

Related thematic areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Interpreting in conflict zones
- Brokering & mediating
- Citizen media
- Political translation
- Politics of professional translation
- Politics of translation studies
- Ethics of translation
- Translating political science
- Contributions of political science to translation
- Representing (the) people(s)
- The sound and image of power
- Audiovisual manipulations
- Mediating power struggles
- Manipulation and censorship
- Discourse on current political issues
- Constructing Nationhood
- Gender politics
- Translating religions
- Of reforms and revolutions
- Translating democracy

### **Submission of Abstracts**

The languages of the conference will be Arabic and English. Proposals should be submitted online through <http://www.editorialmanager.com/tii-conference/Default.aspx>



They should include the following elements:

- Applicant's institutional affiliation and contact information, including email
- Abstract of 250 to 300 words

**The deadline for proposals is October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.**

Papers accepted will be allocated 30 minutes in the program, which includes no more than 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for questions/discussion.

**Accommodation and travel costs:**

TII will sponsor speakers; this will include economy flight tickets, accommodation, and transportation to and from the conference only. TII will also apply for the speakers' visas, however the approval is subject to the State's regulations.